

In re HAIMOVSKY ET AL., Application No. 10/042,846
Amendment A

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): An apparatus comprising:

a master system;

a slave system including a programmable interface coupled to the master system; and

a storage mechanism, external to and coupled to the programmable interface, for storing a remote boot image;

wherein the master system is configured to update the programmable interface to retrieve the remote boot image.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The apparatus of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein the storage mechanism is a memory.

Claim 3 (original): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the master system includes the storage mechanism.

Claim 4 (original): The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the programmable interface includes a system controller; and

wherein the master system is configured to update the system controller to redirect a boot image retrieval request from the slave system to the master system.

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Claim 5 (original): The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the master system includes a master system controller; and

wherein the master system is further configured to program the master system controller to redirect the boot image retrieval request to the storage mechanism.

Claim 6 (original): The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a second slave system coupled to the programmable interface; and

wherein the second slave system includes the storage mechanism.

Claim 7 (original): The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a boot image server coupled to the programmable interface; and

wherein the boot image server includes the storage mechanism.

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Claim 8 (currently amended): An apparatus comprising:

a master system including a storage mechanism for storing a first remote boot image and a second remote boot image;

a first slave system including a first programmable interface coupled to the master system; and

a second slave system including a second programmable interface coupled to the master system;

wherein the master system is configured to perform one or more operations to identify the first slave system and the second slave system after the master system is booted and the first and second slave systems are released, and in response, to determine that the first remote boot image should be used for the first slave system and that the second remote boot image should be used for the second slave system, and to update the first programmable interface to retrieve the first remote boot image, and image; and ~~wherein the master system is configured~~ to update the second programmable interface to retrieve the second remote boot image.

Claim 9 (original): The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the first programmable interface includes a first system controller; and

wherein the master system is configured to update the first system controller to redirect a first boot image retrieval request from the first slave system to the master system.

Claim 10 (original): The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the second programmable interface includes a second system controller; and

wherein the master system is configured to update the second system controller to redirect a second boot image retrieval request from the second slave system to the master system.

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Claim 11 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the master system includes a master system controller; and

wherein the master system is further configured to program the master system controller to redirect the first boot image retrieval request to ~~the access first~~ access the first remote boot image in the storage mechanism.

Claim 12 (original): The apparatus of claim 11, the master system is further configured to program the master system controller to redirect the second boot image retrieval request to access the second remote boot image in the storage mechanism.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A method comprising:

booting a master system;

the master system, after said booting, performing one or more operations to identify the first slave controller, to interrogate the slave controller to identify one or more characteristics of the slave controller, and to determine a boot image based on said one or more characteristics;

programming a the slave controller to relay a boot request from a slave processor to a master system controller;

programming the master system controller to relay the boot request to a storage mechanism;

programming the master system controller to relay a the boot image from the storage mechanism to the slave controller;

programming the slave controller to relay the boot image to the slave processor or memory associated with the slave processor; and

booting the slave processor with the boot image.

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Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 13, wherein said programming the slave controller to relay the boot request includes assigning one or more addresses to the slave controller.

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 13, wherein said programming the slave controller to relay the boot request includes programming the slave controller to allow access to one or more internal registers of the slave controller.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The method of claim 13, wherein said programming the master system controller to relay the boot request includes programming the master controller to redirect slave boot addresses.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 13, comprising releasing the slave processor from a reset condition.

Claims 18-19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (original): An apparatus comprising:
means for redirecting a boot operation of a remote system;
means for storing a remote boot image; and
means for providing the remote boot image to the remote system.

Claim 21 (original): The apparatus of claim 20, wherein said means for redirecting and said means for storing are included in separate systems of the apparatus.

Claim 22 (original): The apparatus of claim 20, wherein said means for storing the remote boot image includes a file server.

Claim 23 (canceled)

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Claim 24 (original): An apparatus comprising:

means for booting a master ~~system~~; system, wherein the master system includes means for performing one or more operations after said booting to identify a first slave controller, to interrogate the slave controller to identify one or more characteristics of the slave controller, and to determine a boot image based on said one or more characteristics;

means for programming a the slave controller to relay a boot request from a slave processor to a master system controller;

means for programming the master system controller to relay the boot request to a storage mechanism;

means for programming the master system controller to relay a the boot image from the storage mechanism to the slave controller;

means for programming the slave controller to relay the boot image to the slave processor or memory associated with the slave processor; and

means for booting the slave processor with the boot image.

Claim 25 (original): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein said means for programming the slave controller to relay the boot request includes means for assigning one or more addresses to the slave controller.

Claim 26 (original): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein said means for programming the slave controller to relay the boot request includes means for programming the slave controller to allow access to one or more internal registers of the slave controller.

Claim 27 (original): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein said means for programming the master controller to relay the boot request includes means for programming the master controller to redirect slave boot addresses.

Claims 28-29 (canceled)

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Claim 30 (new): The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said one or more operations includes interrogating the first slave system to identify one or more characteristics.

Claim 31 (new): The apparatus of claim 31, wherein said one or more characteristics include its type.

Claim 32 (new): The apparatus of claim 31, wherein said one or more characteristics include its version.

Claim 33 (new): The method of claim 13, wherein said one or more characteristics include its type or version.

Claim 33 (new): The apparatus of claim 24, wherein said one or more characteristics include its type or version.